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THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 16, 1954

Spent part of the morning with Messrs. Monnet, Hirsch, Van Helmont and Tommy to settle upon a message from Monnet to Dulles. Sent a preliminary telegram on the subject reading:

"SENT: HICOG BONN. PRIORITY. 242.

"FOR CONANT FROM BRUCE.

"Please advise Secretary that in response to his instructions I have secured from Monnet this morning expression his views which will follow shortly. Generally, they envisage immediate grant sovereignty to Germany, early recruitment and training German troops under SHAPE control (this idea presents great difficulties), agreement to hold elections on popular basis for Assembly on March 1, 1955. All this would be agreed by Governments at forthcoming conference and submitted to Parliaments. Monnet is against Eden plan as being simply camouflage for recreation German national army. He intends return from Paris to Luxembourg today. He has not asked to see Secretary but am sure he would be available if desired. DILLON."

Dulles is arriving at Bonn about 2:30 this afternoon and going to London tomorrow, skipping Paris. Mendès is [redacted] upset at being neglected.

Brose Chambers asked me to attend his American Club lunch for Senator Wiley. I did so, and ingurgitated considerable wine and oratory -- neither [redacted] especially good. Wiley, necessarily and wisely, refused to be drawn into making statements on American foreign policy easy of distortion. Like a thread through his discourse ran the theme of European unity. I saw lots of old friends there.

John Hughes visited me after lunch, which he had taken next door with Jebb and Eden, at the British Embassy. I gave him my comments on the Ed Martin paper.

Merian Cooper [redacted] called me two nights ago from New York about the disposal of some Cinerama Production stock of which I am trustee for his children. This

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little affair has involved considerable procedural difficulties. My secretary in Washington, Mrs. Thompson, has just changed her residence in Virginia, the certificates are in a Washington safe-deposit box, Ole Doering in New York City is charged with the disposition of the shares, Cooper has presumably returned to California, and so it runs.

John Hughes said he had secured Foster's agreement to the appointment of George Perkins as his successor -- this is a splendid choice, and one John and I have discussed several times together. George would be installed only after Senate confirmation, which might be expected in January or February. Meanwhile, this is to be a dread secret.

John Utter came to see me. He says Jack Tappen has been named Ambassador to Libya, replacing Harry Villard. This is a political appointment and unpopular in the Department. Bill Donovan has resigned as Ambassador to Thailand and Jack Peurifoy is to go there.

At lunch today, Senator Wiley told a story about a grasshopper who went to see his friend, a mouse, and said: "Winter is coming on and I get so cold out of doors. What do you suggest I do?" The mouse replied: "Change yourself into a cockroach and go live in a comfortable kitchen, where you will be warm and well-fed." The grasshopper reflected and inquired: "But how do I change into a cockroach?" The mouse answered testily: "I have given you policy guidance; the rest is a matter of procedure."

Alan Scaife telephoned me. Sara and he have sent over a C47 plane and are touring the continent with it.

Dulles arrived at Bonn this afternoon. His decision to omit a visit to Paris has confused, worried, and irritated the French.

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Eden's conversations with Mendès this afternoon have gone better than they did yesterday and this morning, but no firm agreement was reached about the question of Germany's admittance to NATO membership.

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